

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY PEKING

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

ALL ASEAN CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 09046

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJ: GUIDANCE RE SECRETARY VANCE'S PEKING VISIT

1. YOU MAY USE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE TO BRIEF HOST GOVERNMENTS ON SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PEKING. WE RECOGNIZE THERE WILL BE GREAT CURISITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR TALKS WITH THE CHINESE AND WHERE THEY MAY LEAD, BUT YOU SHOULD REFRAIN FROM INTERPRETATION OR SPECULATION.

2. SECRETARY VISITED PEKING AUGUST 22-26 WHERE HE MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA, VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, AND CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG.

3. THE DISCUSSIONS COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL AND BILATERAL ISSUES. THE CONVERSATIONS WERE, IN FACT, AS SERIOUS AND CANDID AS PUBLICLY CHARACTERIZED. ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS THE THALS CONFIRMED THAT THERE
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IS IMPORTANT COMMON GROUND BETWEEN THE US AND PRC. AS EXPECTED, THEY ALSO SHOWED WE CONTINUE TO HAVE DIFFERENCES, ESPECIALLY IN OUR RESPECTIVE VIEWS ABOUT DETENTE AS WELL AS THE WEST'S STRENGTH AND RESOLVE.

4. NORMALIZATION OF US/PRC RELATIONS WAS THE MAIN TOPIC OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. IN KEEPING WITH THE

EXPLORATORY NATURE OF HIS MISSION, THE SECRETARY CAREFULLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY EXPLAINED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S VIEWS. THE CHINESE APPROACHED THE TALKS IN A SERIOUS MANNER. NO AGREEMENTS WERE EXPECTED; NONE WAS REACHED. THE SECRETARY AFFIRMED OUR READINESS TO MOVE FORWARD WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE WHERE WE ACKNOWLEDGED THE CHINESE VIEW THAT THERE IS BUT ONE CHINA, STRESSED OUR INTEREST IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE TAIWAN PROBLEM BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES, AND DISCUSSED VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OUR POSITION IN THIS CONTEXT. THE CHINESE UNDERSCORED THEIR VIEW THAT THE TAIWAN QUESTION IS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR AND STATED THEIR THREE CONDITIONS (SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WITHDRAW TROOPS, TERMINATE DEFENSE TREATY).

5. THE NORMALIZATION TALKS WERE SERIOUS AND RECOGNIZED AS SUCH BY BOTH SIDES. IN HIS TOAST THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID, REFERRING TO OUR TALKS WITH CHAIRMAN HUA AND VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, THE CONVERSATIONS WERE "EARNEST AND SIGNIFICANT". WE DO NOT WISH TO SPEAK IN TERMS OF "SUCCESS" OR "FAILURE" IN SUCH A DIFFICULT PROCESS. THE SECRETARY WILL REPORT FULLY TO THE PRESIDENT AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THIS AND OTHER ISSUES OVER THE MONTHS AHEAD.

6. THE VANCE VISIT FOLLOWED ON THE HEELS OF THE CCP'S
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11TH PARTY CONGRESS. IN BOTH THEIR SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS AND THE RELAXED, CONFIDENT MANNER IN WHICH THEY CONDUCTED THEMSELVES, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT THE CHINESE FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THE POLICIES WHICH WERE CLARIFIED AND CONSOLIDATED BY THE CONGRESS -- I.E., POLICIES ASSOCIATED WITH CHOU EN-LAI/TENG HSIAO-PING AND SANCTIFIED BY MAO TSE TUNG. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT, IF ANY, BEARING THIS WILL HAVE ON THE COURSE OF OUR FUTURE TALKS WITH THE PRC.

7. FOR TOKYO, SEOUL, AND TAIPEI: SECRETARY OR HOLBROOKE WILL BE SUPPLEMENTING ABOVE THROUGH PERSONAL BRIEFING.
VANCE

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